

when Bob Sheetz purchased one of his father's dairy stores. After hiring his brother, Steve, the pair's original business plan was to open one store a year by 1972. With 500 stores currently open across Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, and North Carolina, their plan was a resounding success. Five members of the Sheetz family serve on the company's executive committee including Bob's son as president, and Steve, as Chairman of the board. Despite all of their growth and expansion, it remains a family business to this day.

That is why it is no surprise that the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and Team Pennsylvania Foundation have named Sheetz one of the best places to work in Pennsylvania for the last 13 consecutive years. I want to thank the Sheetz' family for their dedication to the community, and their friendly service to the thousands of families that visit their stores each day.

I would also personally like to congratulate Sheetz on opening their 500th store. Their effort to turn the business into one of the fastest growing family operated convenience store chains in the world is remarkable, but is also no surprise to anyone who has met a member of the Sheetz family. With plans to open 1,000 total stores in the future, Sheetz is not slowing down. I am extremely proud to represent the Altoona area, and to be able to tell all of my colleagues on Capitol Hill that the 9th District is the birthplace of some of the best sandwiches in the country.

RECOGNIZING MRS. KAREN BURCH AS THE 2016 SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mrs. Karen Burch as the 2016 Santa Rosa County, Florida, Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Burch has proven to be a truly exceptional educator whose impact extends far beyond her students, and I am proud to recognize her success and outstanding achievements.

Mrs. Burch began her education career as an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) para professional, working to ensure that ESE students received the instruction and attention needed to thrive in the classroom. Her commitment to serving the ESE student population led her to enroll in the University of West Florida's Para to Teacher program, and after graduation from UWF, Mrs. Burch began working as an ESE teacher at S.S. Dixon Primary School. During her seven years as a teacher at S.S. Dixon, Mrs. Burch's determination and patience have helped her provide exceptional education to ESE students from kindergarten to second grade.

Constantly striving to lead by example, Mrs. Burch demonstrates her leadership skills outside of the classroom as the head of the school's Positive Behavior Committee and as a mentor to other teachers and student teachers currently enrolled at the University of West Florida.

Prior to her professional career in education, Mrs. Burch honorably served our Nation as a member of the United States Air Force. During her military service, Mrs. Burch worked as a Training Manager in a Civil Engineering Squadron and maintained top secret materials and information for the F-15 Fighter Training School. The leadership skills and commitment to service that Mrs. Burch developed while in the Air Force have proven to be integral to her success working with students with emotional and behavioral needs and inspiring them to reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, teachers are amongst our most valuable public servants, and they play an integral role in shaping the future of our Nation. The Santa Rosa County Teacher of the Year award is a true reflection of Mrs. Burch's steadfast dedication to the students of Santa Rosa County. She has proven to be among the many exceptional teachers in our Nation, and on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mrs. Karen Burch for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Burch as the 2016 Santa Rosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year and thanking her for her dedication to serving the students, teachers, and families of the Northwest Florida community. We wish her all the best for continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,149,752,816,959.60. We've added \$7,522,875,768,046.52 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING GRACEWORKS MINISTRIES ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate GraceWorks Ministries on their 20th anniversary of success. GraceWorks Ministries is a Christian non-profit that cares for struggling citizens in need in the Tennessee Seventh Congressional District.

Each of us has a duty to be good stewards to our fellow citizens. Whether that means serving in Washington, on the battlefield or in our local communities and homes. Beginning in 1995, a handful of concerned residents based in Williamson County, Tennessee recognized a growing number of their fellow residents were struggling to meet basic physical,

emotional and spiritual needs. These residents banded together to provide financial assistance, food, faith, friendship and relief.

Twenty years later, thousands of Tennesseans continue to volunteer from community congregations, businesses and organizations to further the mission of GraceWorks Ministries, "by God's grace, to provide immediate and long-term resources to neighbors in need." In 2014 alone, GraceWorks helped well over 40,000 people by providing nutritious food, holiday baskets, gifts, clothing, home goods, educational programs and family counseling. These services not only rescue those in need, but also encourage participants to gradually move toward self-sufficiency.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Graceworks for their magnificent and generous service, which has enriched the lives of Tennesseans for the past twenty years.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL ZACHARY IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Michael Zachary of Dowling Catholic High School for winning the Class 3A 132 pound bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament on February 21, 2015.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs in our state, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Winning a state championship is the culmination of years of hard work and commitment, not only on the part of Mr. Zachary, but also his family, teammates, and coaches.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this student-athlete demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Michael and his family in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Michael on competing in this rigorous competition and wishing continued success in his education and wrestling career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF MAJOR JOSEPH REYNES, JR., UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RETIRED

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Major Joseph Reynes, Jr., United States Air Force Retired, who passed away on February 23, 2015. Major Reynes was a decorated veteran, committed public servant, and a loving family man, who served our Nation with honor and distinction. The Northwest Florida community mourns the loss of a great and compassionate man.

Born on March 1, 1934, in Medina, New York, to Joseph and Alice Jay Reynes, Major Reynes developed a fascination for fighter aircraft as a young child growing up on Long Island. While attending the State University of

New York at Buffalo, Major Reynes pursued his passion for flying and was commissioned in the United States Air Force in January 1955. Within months, Major Reynes pinned on his wings and was assigned to the 774th Troop Carrier Squadron at Ardmore Air Force Base, Oklahoma, where he would meet his future bride, LaRita Dawn Foster.

In 1960, upon completion of advanced fighter training at Nellis Air Force Base, Major Reynes received his orders as a fighter pilot in 44th Tactical Fighter Squadron, based at Kadena Air Force Base, Okinawa, and then in 1962, was assigned to the 481st Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. Major Reynes deployed during the Vietnam War to DaNang Air Base, where he flew the A1E/H and T-28. During a combat support mission in September 1965, his plane was shot down. Major Reynes was rescued and later assigned to Luke Air Force Base as a F-100 Instructor Pilot. In 1968, he was promoted to the rank of Major, and in 1969, he joined the "Iron Hand" support missions flying over North Vietnam. Major Reynes completed his final tour at 5th Air Force Headquarters in Tokyo as the Chief of Standard Evaluation.

Throughout his distinguished Air Force Career, Major Reynes earned and was bestowed multiple honors including the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medal with eighteen Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Combat Readiness Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Upon his retirement from the Armed Forces, Major Reynes continued his service to our Nation as an active member of the local community. In 1980, he was first elected as Mayor of Gulf Breeze, Florida and served two terms. He also served as Deacon of Pensacola Beach Community Church and volunteered his time to assist local area veterans.

Some of his greatest moments, however, were spent coaching his son Joe's and grandson Harrison's baseball teams, as well as the Chofu High and Gulf Breeze High track teams, alongside his children. To his family and friends, Major Reynes will always be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father of three, and proud grandfather of six, and his contributions to our Nation and Northwest Florida will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the life and dedicated service of Major Joseph Reynes, Jr. My wife, Vicki, joins me in extending our deepest prayers and condolences to his wife LaRita Foster Reynes; children, Major General Joseph Reynes, Jr., Lisa Marie Reynes, Jeannette Prochaska; grandchildren; and the entire Reynes family.

THE PASSING OF J. MICHAEL
LENIHAN

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember a Rhode Island leader

whose example can remind us all of why we pursued public office in the first place. Former State Senator J. Michael Lenihan was the very definition of a public servant. He was an honest man and a charismatic leader, and he always put the needs of his constituents first.

Mike was a fierce advocate for transparency and open government, and his strong moral compass defined his distinguished career in government. A three-time recipient of Common Cause's Public Service Achievement Award, Mike was first elected to the East Greenwich Town Council and then went on to serve for 20 years in the Rhode Island State Senate. He fought for what he thought was right, no matter how difficult or unpopular it was. Mike wasn't afraid of making enemies, although he seldom did thanks to his kindness and genuine personality. You could always trust Mike to be honest and fair, and he was a valued advisor to so many Rhode Island leaders over the years.

A teacher by profession, Mike taught us all a lesson in how to be the best possible elected official.

I am so grateful that the Lenihan family was willing to share Mike with us, and I know how proud they are of his lifetime of service to Rhode Island. My deepest condolences go out to Mike's wife Patricia, his daughter Meghan and his grandchildren, Victoria and Bryanna, and I know my colleagues will join me in extending our sympathy to the entire Lenihan family.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR
DOROTHY S. "SUE" LANDSKE

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Senator Dorothy S. "Sue" Landske, a woman who was fully committed and dedicated to public service for close to a half century. She was known as a woman of warmth who gave indefatigably to those she represented and served.

Sue began her career in public service in 1978 when she was elected Lake County's Township Assessor. She held that position until 1984 when her effort to represent the people of Indiana's 6th Senatorial District proved successful.

While in the State Senate, Sue wrote and ushered to passage several significant pieces of legislation including bills to give free tuition to Purple Heart recipients, establish objective guidelines for creating legislative and congressional districts, and promote women entering the engineering field. In the final years of her senatorial tenure, Sue served as assistant president pro tempore and chair of the Senate Elections Committee.

It was in the election law and administration capacity that I, as Indiana's 59th Secretary of State, worked most closely with her, particularly on Indiana's best in the nation Photo ID at the polls law and the groundbreaking Vote Centers law. She was an excellent lawmaker and a good friend.

She was also a fellow "Regionite," one of several colorful names given to residents of our shared home area of Lake County, in the northwest corner of Indiana.

Service to the community extended beyond her elective service however. A veteran and Colonel of the National Guard Reserves, Sue also remained active in several community organizations. Her commitment to community service was widely recognized and she was a two-time recipient of the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash Award, a high civilian honor granted only by the Governor. She received that award in both 1980 and 1983. She was also named Outstanding Republican Senator, Lake County Republican of the Year, Jay Cee's Citizen of the Year, and Business and Professional Woman of the Year.

Despite her extraordinary service and recognition, Sue's true source of pride remained her loving family. She and her husband William, who also devoted his life to public service, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007. She leaves her husband, daughters Cathy, Jackie, Pam and Cheryl, and cherished grandchildren. I offer to all of them, their extended families, and all Hoosiers who share the grief of her loss, my sincerest condolences.

A TRIBUTE TO JAKE MARNIN IN
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jake Marnin of Southeast Polk High School for winning the Class 3A Heavy Weight bracket at the Iowa High School State Wrestling tournament on February 21, 2015.

Iowa has a long and proud history of strong wrestling programs in our state, producing college and Olympic champions for years. Winning a state championship is the culmination of years of hard work and commitment, not only on the part of Mr. Marnin, but also his family, teammates, and coaches.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this student-athlete demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Jake and his family in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Jake on competing in this rigorous competition and wishing continued success in his education and wrestling career.

STEPHEN L. CALDWELL
COMMENDATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Stephen L. Caldwell, a recently retired Director of the Government Accountability Office's Homeland Security and Justice team. Steve and his team have provided indispensable support to Congressional Committees and individual Members of both the House of Representatives and the Senate throughout his long service to Congress, and to this nation.